

# Commissioners in Action

by MARIAN MCMAHON

**LAKE COUNTY** - Lake County Commissioners Bob Aufuldish, Dan Troy and Ray Sines meet at 10 a.m. most Thursdays, with some meetings at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, in the Commissioners' Chambers on the fourth floor of the Lake County Administration Building, 105 Main St., Painesville.

All meetings are open to the public. Requests to address the government board may be made at any board meeting or presented to the Commissioners' Office by calling Amy Elaszcz at (440) 350-2753.

At the March 20 meeting, the following legislation was adopted:

## RESOLUTIONS ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

- A resolution authorizing advertising for bids for roadway materials for the Lake County Engineer's Road Department for the year 2012 with a bid opening date of April 11.

- Resolution finding and determining that the territory to be used for Jonathan A. and Rosann M. Zingales to construct an armor stone barrier structure for shore protection to said ODNR specifications along the shoreline of the property for erosion protection in Lake Erie, Madison Township is not required for use by Lake County and complies with regulations or permissible land use.

## UTILITIES

## DEPARTMENT

- Resolution authorizing execution of a solid waste agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

This is to create a commercial credit account for ODNR for disposal of fish remains after sampling and testing.

- Resolution reclassifying Michael Erkila to the position of industrial pretreatment inspector I in the Lake County Department of Utilities, effective March 26.

- Resolution reclassifying Cynthia Leonello to the position of secretary I in the Lake County Department of Utilities, effective April 9.

## JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES

## DEPARTMENT

- Resolution approving Lake County Department of Job and Family Services vouchers date of warrant March 26 in the amount of \$497,701.62.

- Resolution authorizing execution of Amendment I to the FY2012 reclaim Ohio and Youth Services Subsidy Grant agreement between the Lake County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Lake County Juvenile Court and the Ohio Department of Youth Services for youth programs, care and services.

The amendment designates uncommitted funds to cover the increased costs for employer healthcare contributions.

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Resolution expressing the intention of the county to issue self-supporting hospital revenue bonds for Lake Hospital System, Inc. and setting the date, time and place for a public hearing at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 17.

The amount is not to exceed \$155 million and will be used to refund the county's current Hospital Facilities Variable Rate Revenue Bonds and two series of Hospital Facilities Refunding Revenue Bonds.

Commissioner Dan Troy said the county wished the Lake County Port Authority involved in issuance of these types of bonds because there was revenue to be gained.

However, since the bonds were reissued under Section 140 of the Ohio Revised Code the Port Authority could not issue them. However, if they were reissued under a different section, the Port Authority would be able to issue them.

"I know that the Cleveland Port Authority issues a lot of bonds for the Cleveland Clinic and I'm just wondering what the thought process is, or why we couldn't issue them since we're basically just refinancing them," Troy said, asking why that could not be done.

Todd Gibson of Squire Sanders LLP, LakeHealth's bond counsel, said the bonds were 140 bonds and needed to be reissued as such. The bonds issued by port authorities would need to be for other purposes.

- Resolution increasing appropriations for general fund accounts.

- Resolution transferring cash and appropriation within various general and non general fund accounts.

- Resolution approving the 2012 final appropriation measure for funds outside the general fund totaling \$229,285,543.63.

Commissioner Bob Aufuldish noted these funds were administered by the county but were not from the county's general fund.

Troy added they were federal and state funds which the county needed to appropriate each year.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- Troy stated the Lake County Board of Elections had requested a machine which could count the early votes cast in elections. Putnam County had a little-used machine that would work and was asking \$22,000. Lake County offered \$15,000, which was accepted.

"I think we need to get moving on this Land Bank operation," Troy said.

He believes the county needs a Land Bank to help deal with the issue of abandoned, vacant and rundown foreclosed homes. There is money available and support from Congress to deal with these issues.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel.

*At the March 22 meeting, the following legislation was adopted:*

## RESOLUTIONS: ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT

- Resolution approving contract modification No. 1 (16597-1) to the agreement with GGJ Inc. consulting engineers for construction services for the LAK-Lake Road Improvement Project contract, PID 86263.

## UTILITIES

## DEPARTMENT

- Resolution authorizing advertising for bids for a variable speed drive/motor for the Lake County Department of Utilities with a bid opening date of April 19.

- Resolution rejecting the bid received on Feb. 15 and authorizing re-advertising for bids for Bellflower Area Outlet Sewer Replacement

Project No. 329-S for the Lake County Department of Utilities with a bid opening date of April 18.

The bids for the project have been rejected twice. The second time, the sole bidder did not complete all required paperwork.

- Resolution certifying unpaid sewer and water sums to the Lake County Auditor.

## COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

- Resolution declaring an unused parcel of real property known as 16D111A000310 (0.11 acres) located at Lake Overlook Drive, in Mentor, no longer necessary for county purposes and authorizing the advertisement for bids for the public sale of same, according to sections 307.09 and 307.10 of the Ohio Revised Code, and declaring no minimum bid required.

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- Resolution approving payment of bills as listed on the commissioners' approval journal in the amount of \$1,297,386.79.

- Resolution approving purchase orders as listed on the commissioners' purchase order approval journal in the amount of \$2,374,693.72.

- Resolution increasing appropriations for various non general fund accounts.

- Resolution transferring cash within various non general fund accounts.

## SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution proclaiming April 2012 Child Abuse Prevention Month in Lake County.

Teresa Palm, Children Services administrator at Lake County Job and Family Services said Child Abuse Prevention Month was held nationally to draw attention to child abuse that occurs everywhere. Last year there were more than 4,000 calls regarding possible child abuse in the county.

Commissioner Dan Troy asked about the number being higher than 2010.

Palm said LCJFS said they had gone to the state reporting system last year and because of the change the new system is a more accurate accounting. She does not believe there really are more calls, just that they are being reported differently.

Unfortunately, there was an increase in physical abuse of children and drug-involved abuse cases.

"We are going to do our fifth annual Pinwheels for Prevention event on April 4; it's a Wednesday," said Melanie Hale an assistant administrator. "We're going to plant the pinwheels at 8 a.m. ... and then at noon we're going to have the official kick-off ceremony."

This year LCJFS is sponsoring April 11 as 'Wear Blue to Work' day and encourages everyone to wear blue to work that day as a reminder of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Asked about having to purchase a minimum amount of salt, Engineer Jim Gills said the county did not have an agreement which required them to purchase at least 80 percent of the salt ordered.

"We only bought what we absolutely needed," he said. "We'll fill our bins up and wait until next year. We saved about a quarter of a million dollars (\$250,000) this year (due to the mild winter)."

Asked about the Route 2 project, Gills said he believed it might be done this year since they had already started work this year because of the warm weather.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners adjourned to executive session to discuss real estate issues.